

DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

Southwest Region Office

PO Box 47775, Olympia, WA 98504-7775 • 360-407-6300

June 26, 2025

Allen Shellfish LLC Attn: Brian Allen PO Box 11775 Bainbridge Island, WA 98110

Re: Coastal Zone Management Federal Consistency Decision for Steel Shellfish Farm (Corps

No. NWS-2024-212), Case Inlet, Stretch Island, Mason County, Washington

Dear Brian Allen:

On November 12, 2024, the Department of Ecology (Ecology) received a Certification of Consistency with the Washington State Coastal Zone Management Program (CZMP) for the above project. Ecology issued a 21-day public notice on November 27, 2024. Pursuant to Section 307(c)(3) of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 as amended, Ecology concurs with Applicant's determination that the proposed work is consistent with Washington's CZMP.

The proposed work includes commercial cultivation of Pacific oysters and Pacific geoduck clams on 1.33 acres of Case Inlet between tidal elevations +1.0 and -4.5 feet (mean lower low water) at Stretch Island, Mason County, Washington (tax parcels 121084100080 and 121084190071). Oysters will be cultivated on-bottom in black plastic mesh grow bags attached to ground lines anchored on 30-foot centers with half cinderblock bricks buried 18 inches in the substrate. Geoducks will be planted in flexible HDPE mesh sleeves for predator exclusion, installed by hand using low volume and low pressure pumped seawater to prepare the tube location for installation of the sleeve, which is pushed into the beach manually to a depth of 6 to 7 inches, leaving 5 to 6 inches emergent. Typically, tubes are installed at a density of one tube per 1 to 1.3 square feet and planted with 3 to 4 seed clams. The top of the mesh tube is left open. The predator exclusion materials remain in place for 24 to 36 months. The cultivation period per growing cycle is about 7 years. Geoduck harvesters will use a low volume/pressure pumped water hand wand to dislodge clams from the substrate during low or high tide conditions. Access will be by boat.

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If you have any questions regarding Ecology's decision, please contact Lydia Albright at Lydia.Albright@ecy.wa.gov or 360-870-2982.

Your right to appeal

You have a right to appeal this decision to the Pollution Control Hearings Board (PCHB) within 30 days of the date of receipt. The appeal process is governed by Chapter 43.21B RCW and Chapter 371-08 WAC. "Date of receipt" is defined in RCW 43.21B.001(2).

To appeal, you must do all of the following within 30 days of the date of receipt of this decision:

- File your notice of appeal and a copy of this decision with the PCHB (see filing information below). "Filing" means actual receipt by the PCHB during regular business hours as defined in WAC 371-08-305 and -335. "Notice of appeal" is defined in WAC 371-08-340.
- Serve a copy of your notice of appeal and this decision on the Department of Ecology by mail, in person, or by email (see addresses below).12

You must also comply with other applicable requirements in Chapter 43.21B RCW and Chapter 371-08 WAC.

Address and Location Information

Filing with the PCHB

For the most current information regarding filing with the PCHB, visit: https://eluho.wa.gov/ or call: 360-664-9160.

Service on Ecology

Street Addresses:

Department of Ecology Attn: Appeals Processing Desk 300 Desmond Drive SE Lacey, WA 98503

Mailing Addresses:

Department of Ecology Attn: Appeals Processing Desk PO Box 47608 Olympia, WA 98504-7608 Corps No. NWS-2024-212, Aquatics ID No. 143638 June 26, 2025 Page 3 of 3

E-Mail Address:

ecologyappeals@ecy.wa.gov

Sincerely,

Maria Sandercock, Section Manager

Mana Sauler

Southwest Region

Shorelands and Environmental Assistance Program

Sent via e-mail: <u>allenshellfish@gmail.com</u>

E-cc: Kelsey Blubaugh, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Lydia Albright, Ecology Erin Hanlon Brown, Ecology fedconsistency@ecy.wa.gov